



UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF
AGRICULTURE
FARM SERVICE AGENCY
CABARRUS-MECKLENBURG
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Farm Service Agency

Cabarrus-Mecklenburg Farm Service Agency

Newsletter

Number 4

June 9, 2006

CROP ACREAGE REPORTS DUE

The following crop acreage should be reported to the Farm Service Agency by **June 30, 2006.**

Corn Fruits for Commercial Use
Vegetables for Commercial Use
Grain Sorghum Hay Crops Pasture
Silage Crops Floriculture Crops
Cotton Soybeans Industrial Crops
Turf Grass Sod Ornamental Nursery

Operators and/or owners are required to report their acreage to remain eligible for Direct Counter-Cyclical Payment Program benefits, for Loan Deficiency Payments, Commodity Loans, for Conservation Reserve Program benefits, and for Noninsured Assistance Program benefits. The 2002 Farm Bill requires that to receive Direct Counter-Cyclical Program benefits, Loan Deficiency Payments (LDP's), or commodity loan program benefits for a farm, the producer must file a complete acreage report for all cropland.

Fruits, vegetables, hay crops, silage crops, floriculture, ornamental nursery, turf grass sod, and industrial crops are required to report crop acreage for Noninsured Assistance Program benefits.

Cotton acreage is required to be reported in order to meet the Boll Weevil Eradication Program requirements.

Conservation Reserve Program participants must file acreage reports to be eligible for annual rental payments.

THE DEADLINE FOR REPORTING THE ABOVE CROP ACREAGE IS FRIDAY, JUNE 30, 2006.

FARM SERVICE AGENCY NOMINATING PETITIONS BEING ACCEPTED

The Cabarrus-Mecklenburg Farm Service Agency (FSA) Committee election will be held this year for Local Administrative Area (LAA) 2 and LAA 4 on December 4, 2006. In General, LAA 2 is the area in Mecklenburg County east of I-85 and LAA 4 is in the northeast area of Cabarrus County.

Organizations representing socially disadvantaged farmers may nominate any eligible candidate and any producer residing in the committee's jurisdiction may nominate an eligible candidate. **Blank petitions (FSA-669A's) may be obtained at the Cabarrus-Mecklenburg Farm Service Agency.**

Persons nominated should actively participate in the operation of a farm or ranch and be well qualified for committee work. A producer is eligible to be a County or Community FSA committee member if the producer resides in the Local Administrative Area (LAA) in which the election is to be held and is eligible to vote.

To ensure diversity on county and community FSA committees, the Cabarrus-Mecklenburg Farm Service Agency encourages nominations from groups representing producers who are fairly representative of agricultural producers in each LAA and the committee encourages nominations from socially disadvantaged groups.

IMPORTANT ELECTION DATES:

Aug. 1, 2006...Last day to file nomination forms

Nov 3, 2006...Ballots mailed to eligible voters

Dec 4, 2006...Last day to return voted ballots

Cabarrus-Mecklenburg Concord Service Center
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DIRECT/COUNTER CYCLICAL PROGRAM LATE FILED SIGNATURES

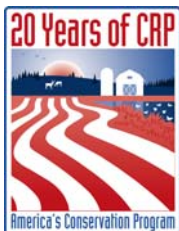
The last day to sign contracts for the 2006 Direct/Counter Cyclical Payment Program was Thursday, June 1, 2006. Producers who were unable to file contracts by the deadline may late file. Farms will be assessed a late file fee of \$100.

BOLL-WEEVIL ERADICATION PROGRAM

The fee for upland cotton for the Boll-Weevil Eradication Program is expected to be \$3.25 per acre for the 2006 crop year. ALL growers of upland cotton MUST pay this fee to the North Carolina Department of Agriculture.

NONINSURED ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (NAP)

NAP producers are reminded to provide 2005 production data to the county office by June 30, 2006. This information will be used to update the actual production history for the crops for which NAP coverage has been purchased.



COMMODITY LOANS AVAILABLE

To be eligible for a loan, crops must be produced on a farm by a producer who has filed a crop acreage report.

Loans on the 2006 crops of wheat, barley and oats are available through March 31, 2007.

2006 LOAN RATES:

Wheat	2.66 per Bushel
Oats	1.37 per Bushel
Barley	1.60 per Bushel

Loans provide immediate cash for farmers and allows them sufficient time to make important marketing decisions, or to hold the grain for feeding later. The program guarantees participating farmers a minimum price not necessarily a profit.

REPORTING DAMAGE OR LOSS TO CROPS

Producers should report damage or loss of crops to the county Farm Service Agency within 15 days of the disaster.

Producers must obtain consent from a certified loss adjuster before destruction of the crop, putting the crop to another use or abandoning any portion of the crop.

2008-2010 CRP CONTRACTS EXTENSION OR REENROLLMENT

Phase two of the Conservation Reserve Program Re-enrollment and Extension process is underway. In early April, the county office staff sent notification letters to producers who have a Conservation Reserve Program contract, CRP-1, expiring between 2008 and 2010. If you received one of these letters, you have until **June 30** to let the county office staff know if you want to re-enroll or extend and pay the compliance review fee. If you don't respond by June 30, your CRP-1 will be allowed to expire.

All CRP contracts expiring between Sept. 30, 2008, and Sept. 30, 2010, were ranked by sign-up and sorted into five equal groups based on the modified EBI.

If your modified EBI is in the first group, you will receive an offer to re-enroll your land in a 10 to 15-year contract. If your modified EBI is in one of the other groups, you will receive an offer to extend your contract as follows.

Second Group, eligible for a five-year contract extension; Third Group, eligible for a four-year contract extension; Fourth Group, eligible for a three-year contract extension; and Fifth Group, eligible for a two-year extension.

As always, contact the county office staff for detailed information.